

June 13 , 2005 - Department Welcomes Randy Focken - Director of Parole

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- Commissioner J David Donahue

INDIANAPOLIS (June 13, 2005) - Indiana Department of Correction today announced the appointment of Randy Focken as Director of Parole. Focken will lead the development and implementation of strategic parole initiatives for the agency. He has been charged by the Commissioner with developing management solutions for improving community safety. Core objectives include the establishment of reform efforts within the agency's juvenile and adult prison as well as parole systems to develop long-term solutions reducing crime by moving offenders away from criminal activity and toward gainful employment.

Focken began his career with corrections in 1980. Since then, he has held various positions of increasing responsibility including county probation and parole officer, U.S. Probation Officer, and sentencing & guidelines specialist in Louisville, Kentucky; Springfield, Illinois; and St. Louis, Missouri. Most recently, Focken served as deputy commissioner for community and local services in Kentucky. Randy received a Bachelor of Science degree in from Illinois University in 1981.

“Focken's experience in all areas of parole and probation makes him uniquely qualified for the challenging role of leading agency-wide reform,” said J. David Donahue, Commissioner of Correction. “Parole management is an area requiring focus and discipline. I know we can count on Randy to continue to drive improvement in the agency.”

The Parole Director will directly report to Deputy Commissioner of Reentry and Community Programs, Julie Von Arx.

About The Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 23,000 adult offenders and more than 1,000 juveniles, in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities

and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>.